



Embassy of the United States of America

Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

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Sierra Leonean-American Athlete Recognized for Community Service

The United States Embassy in Freetown wishes to congratulate Madieu Williams on being named the 2010 NFL Walter Payton Man of the Year. One of the National Football League's most prestigious awards, this accolade recognizes outstanding community service combined with athletic excellence. Mr. Williams displays both qualities in abundance. He has donated his time and resources toward building schools in Sierra Leone, as well as generously endowing a Center for Global Health at his alma mater, the University of Maryland.

In addition, the seven-year NFL veteran and free safety for the Minnesota Vikings plays an active role in community projects in the Minneapolis-St.Paul area of Minnesota, where his charitable efforts include children's hospital visits and programs for underprivileged youth.

The U.S. Embassy considers Mr. Williams a fine example of the American spirit of volunteerism and dedication to lending a helping hand to those who are less fortunate. More information on Mr. Williams' career and foundation is available at www.madieuwilliams.org.